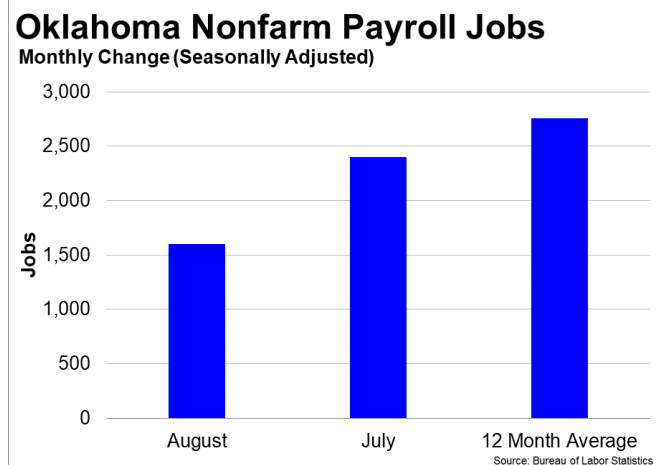
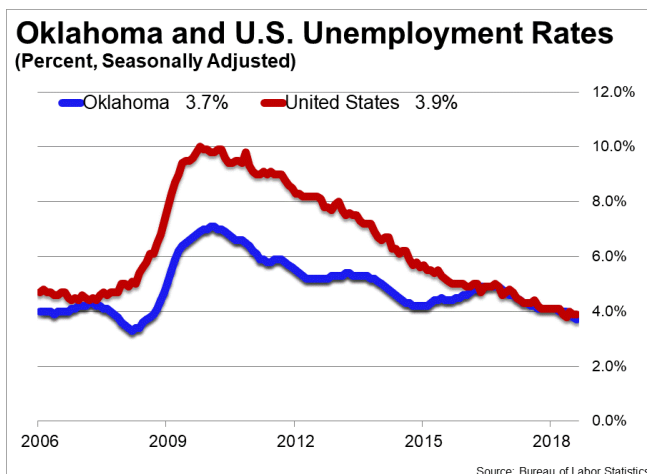




September 21, 2018

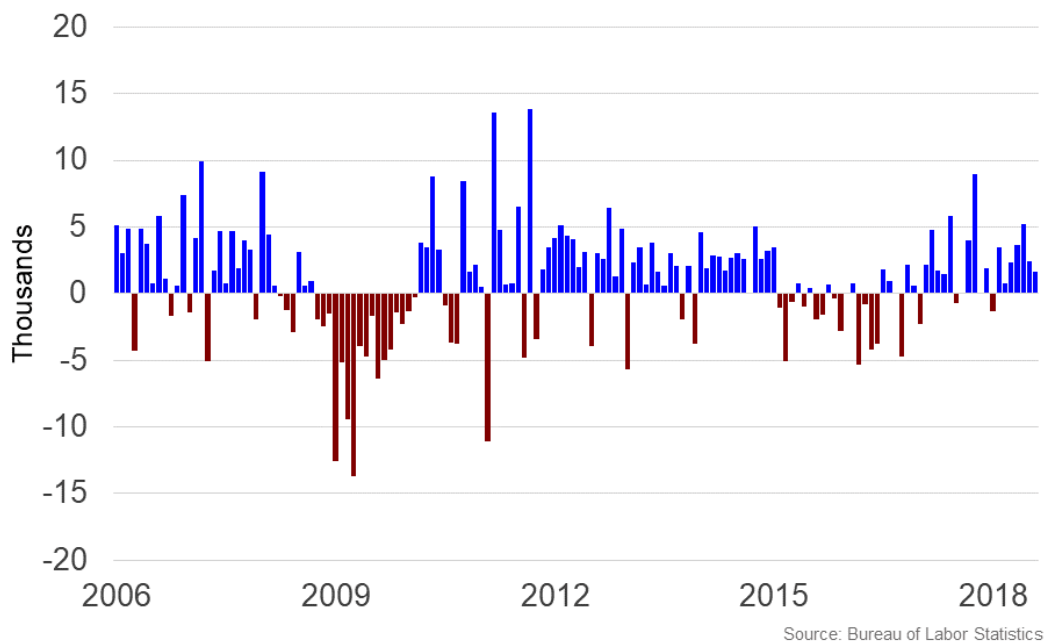
## Summary

- **Oklahoma added 1,600 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 3.7 percent in August** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Oklahoma added 33,100 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.5 percentage point from 4.2 percent.
- **In August, Oklahoma's private sector added 1,400 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 30,800 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Oklahomans fell by 2,094 in August**, and over the past year 34,247 Oklahomans found jobs.
- Oklahoma's **labor force participation rate remains unchanged** from 61.9 percent in August. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.6 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **was unchanged at 3.9 percent in August**. State employment and unemployment data for September is scheduled for release on October 19, 2018. The national employment situation report for September will be released on Friday, October 5, 2018.



# Oklahoma Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Change (Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted)



## Oklahoma Payroll Employment

Oklahoma added 1,600 jobs, or 0.09 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during August. In the prior month, Oklahoma added 2,400 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Oklahoma increased by 33,100, or 1.99 percent. Oklahoma nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 11 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 201,000 jobs in August, or 0.13 percent. Over the 12-month period ending August 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,330,000 jobs, or 1.59 percent. Oklahoma ranks 22nd among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

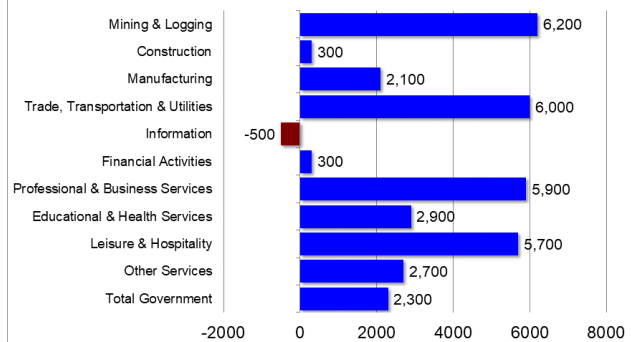
During August, Oklahoma's private-sector added 1,400 jobs, or 0.10 percent. The private-sector in Oklahoma added 1,900 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Oklahoma increased by 30,800, or 2.35 percent. Oklahoma private-sector payroll employment has increased in 11 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 204,000 jobs in August, or 0.16 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,329,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.87 percent. Oklahoma ranks 25th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during August were Leisure & Hospitality (+1,500) and Construction (+900). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Professional & Business Services (-2,400) and Information (-500).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Mining & Logging (+6,200) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+6,000). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Information (-500), Construction (+300), and Financial Activities (+300).

### Change in Oklahoma Payroll Employment by Sector over Past 12 Months



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, seasonally adjusted

## Oklahoma Labor Force Statistics

### *Labor Force Participation*

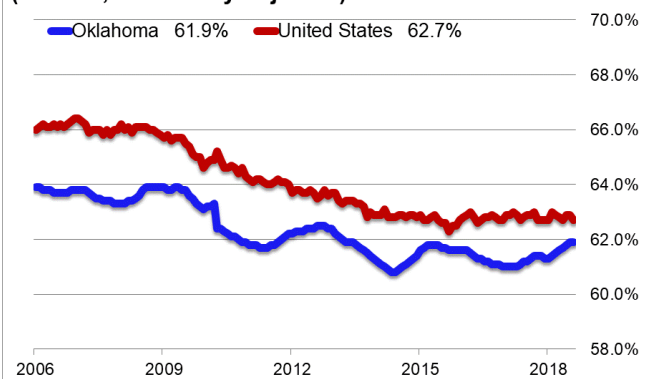
The labor force participation rate in Oklahoma was unchanged at 61.9 percent in August. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 35 have a higher labor force participation rate than Oklahoma. The labor force participation rate in Oklahoma is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Oklahoma was 63.9 percent in May 2009. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Oklahoma occurred in July 1986 when the labor force participation rate hit 65.9 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 60.8 percent in June 2014. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in November 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 58.7 percent. The national labor force participation rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 62.7 percent in August 2018, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Oklahoma civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 59.7 percent in August from 59.6 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of

### Oklahoma and U.S. Labor Force Participation (Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Columbia, 31 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Oklahoma. The employment-to-population ratio in Oklahoma is 1.0 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Oklahoma was 61.4 percent in September 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Oklahoma occurred in March 2001 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 62.5 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 57.9 percent in December 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in July 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 55.3 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio declined by 0.2 percentage point to 60.3 percent in August. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

